

## [CHAPTER 821]

## AN ACT

December 24, 1942  
[H. R. 6447]  
[Public Law 841]

To provide for the orderly transaction of the public business in the event of the death or of the resignation or separation from office of the Chief Disbursing Officer.

Chief Disbursing  
Officer, Treasury De-  
partment.  
Continuation of ac-  
counts, etc., in case of  
death.

Liability for official  
acts.

Bond.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That in case of the death or of the resignation or separation from office of the Chief Disbursing Officer, Treasury Department, the accounts of the Chief Disbursing Officer may be continued and payments made in his name by an Assistant Chief Disbursing Officer, designated by the Secretary of the Treasury, for a period of time not to extend beyond the last day of the second month following the month in which the death, resignation, or separation shall occur. Such accounts and payments shall be allowed, audited, and settled in the General Accounting Office, and the checks signed in the name of the former Chief Disbursing Officer shall be honored by the Treasurer of the United States, in the same manner as if the former Chief Disbursing Officer had continued in office. The former Chief Disbursing Officer, his estate, or the sureties on his official bond, shall not be subject to any legal liability or penalty for the official acts and defaults of the Assistant Chief Disbursing Officer acting in the name or in the place of the former Chief Disbursing Officer under this Act, but the Assistant Chief Disbursing Officer and his sureties shall be responsible therefor under their bond. The bond for the Acting Chief Disbursing Officer shall be an amount at least equal to the minimum amount of the bond required of the Chief Disbursing Officer. The Secretary of the Treasury may, from time to time, require the Assistant Chief Disbursing Officer to renew and increase his bond to the United States.

Approved, December 24, 1942.

## [CHAPTER 822]

## AN ACT

December 24, 1942  
[H. R. 6671]  
[Public Law 842]

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire lands or interest in lands for the Geological Survey.

Geological Survey.  
Acquisition of lands.

Easements, leases,  
etc.

Proviso.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of the Interior may, on behalf of the United States and for use by the Geological Survey in gaging streams, acquire lands by donation or when funds have been appropriated by Congress by purchase or condemnation but not in excess of ten acres for any one stream-gaging station. For the same purpose the Secretary may obtain easements, licenses, rights-of-way, and leases limited to run for such a period of time or term of years as may be required for the effective performance of the function of gaging streams: *Provided,* That nothing in this Act shall be construed as affecting or intended to affect or to in any way interfere with the laws of any State or Territory relating to the control, appropriation, use, or distribution of water used in irrigation, or any vested right acquired thereunder, and the Secretary of the Interior, in carrying out the provisions of this Act, shall proceed in conformity with such laws, and nothing in this Act shall in any way affect any right of any State or of the Federal Government or of any landowner, appropriator, or user of water in, to, or from any interstate stream or the waters thereof.

Approved, December 24, 1942.